Canon

Print Server Appliance
Version 2.2

Easily manage your organization's network printing with the Canon Print Server Appliance.

The Canon Print Server Appliance (PSA) is a Windows® 2003 turnkey server appliance designed to easily manage any organization's network printing. Not only does the PSA provide the option to offload the print traffic from the main backbone of the network, but it also makes print queue creation and driver management incredibly simple. Once the PSA is plugged into a network, it automatically discovers network print devices and creates the appropriate print queues. Driver installation becomes a breeze by allowing clients to download preconfigured drivers to their desktop PC from the appliance's Web page through a single click. The new release of the PSA is based on the Windows 2003 platform and contains helpful features for any enterprise IT Manager such as basic click counts, factory reset, automatic failover, import print share, and many more.

Reduce Your Total Cost of Ownership

Most enterprise Information Technology (IT) groups rely on general purpose servers for their printing needs. General purpose servers have a higher Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) than the Canon Print Server Appliance (PSA). TCO refers to the cost of capital expenditure plus the operating expense for a product over a given period of time.

The Canon PSA has a much lower TCO since it requires less time to manage, virtually eliminating printer-related calls to the IT help desk and reducing the amount of time required for new installations. Based on our research, over a five-year period the Canon PSA's TCO is approximately half that of a general purpose server because the PSA is easier to maintain.

For a new installation, an IT Manager using a general purpose server must set up the server by manually installing each printer driver, creating a port and a print queue, entering a location, and configuring it for each client supported operating system.

All these steps must be repeated for every print device in the enterprise. Following the print queue configuration, the IT Manager must figure out a way to distribute the drivers to clients' computers. These additional steps significantly increase the time to set up the printing environment in an enterprise.

With the Canon PSA, the IT Manager simply plugs the appliance into the network. The PSA then discovers all the print devices and automatically publishes the shares for Canon imageRUNNER® systems. Once published, clients can download the desired print share from an easy-to-use intranet Web page with a single click. Based on internal cost estimates, the Canon PSA may save days in deployment time for the IT Manager and thousands of dollars for the company.
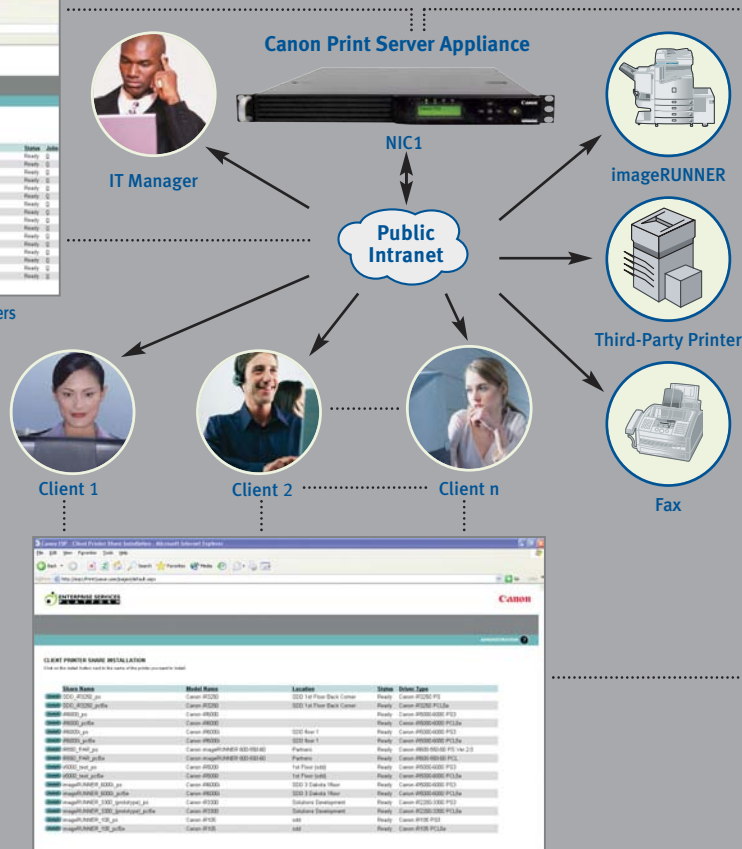
Auto Appliance Setup

1U
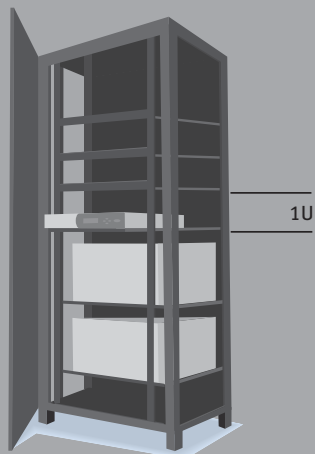
Simply plug the PSA into your server rack. Setup is automatic so it's ready to use.

Standard Configuration

Auto Discovery/Print Share Management for IT Managers

Canon Print Server Appliance

IT Manager

NIC1

imageRUNNER

Public Intranet

Third-Party Printer

Client 1   Client 2   Client n

Fax

The PSA will discover all print devices on your network and automatically create the print queues. For most Canon imageRUNNER devices, the PSA will even detect the device configuration and automatically enable the appropriate finishing features on that printer prior to download to client computers. The easy-to-use Web interface provides "ready access" to all clients, as well as IT staff.

Single-Click Driver Download for Clients

Auto Appliance Setup

Simply plug the PSA into your network. That's it—setup is automatically done and the device is ready for use.

Auto Printer Queue Creation and Sharing

The PSA automatically discovers network printing devices, creates associated print shares, and then makes them available to end-users within an enterprise by publishing them to an intranet Web page. Furthermore, the PSA provides automatic detection of all finishing options for Canon devices.

Single-Click Driver Download

Client users can easily download their preconfigured driver with one simple click. The IT manager simply enables the available drivers for download from the PSA's intranet Web page.

Support for Non-Canon Printers

Though the Canon PSA comes preloaded with imageRUNNER drivers, that doesn't mean its benefits are limited only to Canon devices. IT Managers can easily upload drivers for other print manufacturers. The PSA will automatically recognize any printer supporting the standard printer MIB during discovery.

Basic Click Count

The PSA reports basic click count usage on a per device basis. For each device (Canon or third-party), the PSA reports the total click counts (copies and prints) within a specified period as well as on a monthly basis. This report is available for download to a .csv file or via e-mail.

Based on Microsoft® Standards

By incorporating a Windows 2003 server as its internal operating system, the PSA ensures users of true Windows printing. Additionally, customers who have standardized Microsoft networking products are assured easy integration and ongoing support.
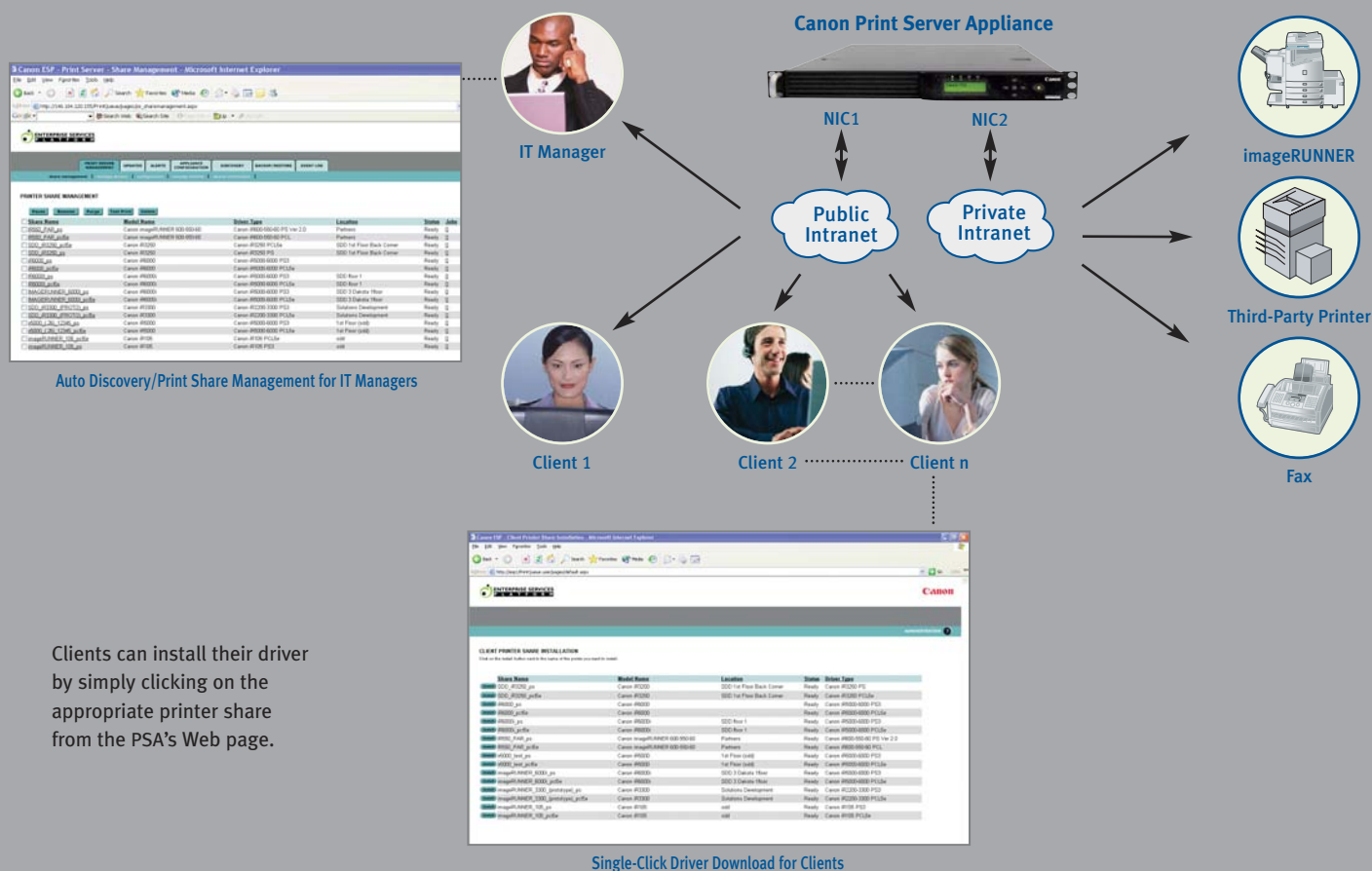
Import Print Shares and Drivers

IT Managers can easily import print shares and drivers from existing general purpose servers to the PSA, thus saving them plenty of time during the initial setup phase.

Automatic Failover (N + 1 Redundancy)

In order to ensure that clients are always able to print, the PSA has an N + 1 Redundancy scheme. In an environment where many PSAs are used, one PSA can be

Private LAN Configuration

Auto Discovery/Print Share Management for IT Managers

IT Manager

Canon Print Server Appliance

NIC1   NIC2

Public Intranet   Private Intranet

imageRUNNER

Third-Party Printer

Fax

Client 1   Client 2   Client n

Clients can install their driver by simply clicking on the appropriate printer share from the PSA's Web page.

Single-Click Driver Download for Clients

designated as the failover unit. The failover unit will automatically monitor the health of the other PSA units. Should a PSA become inactive, the failover unit will assume the identity of the other unit, without requiring any intervention from the IT Manager. Having automatic failover capability averts a crisis by allowing the IT Manager to address the situation at their convenience.

Fleet Manager

Fleet Manager is a separate software utility bundled with the PSA designed to give the IT Manager the capability to manage all the PSAs within the enterprise from one console. Fleet Manager lets the IT Manager configure and clone multiple PSAs across the enterprise. For example, with Fleet Manager, the IT Manager only needs to download a driver once for a specific device that's not a Canon device, and push the driver out to all PSAs that have the same device. In this example, Fleet Manager reduces the time it will take the IT Manager to manually download the driver for every PSA in the enterprise.
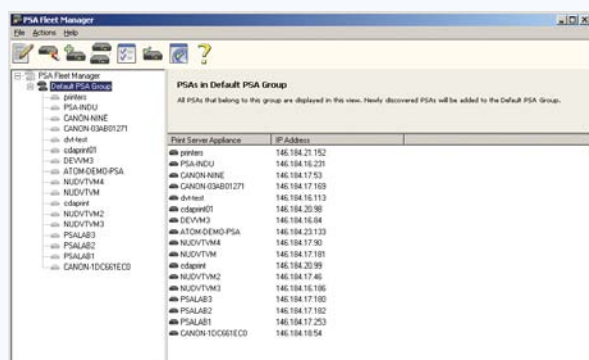
Factory Reset

This feature allows the IT Manager to go to a physical PSA unit and, through a series of special key sequences, restore the unit back to the original software shipped from the factory. Factory Reset saves the IT Manager the time and effort required to restore a PSA unit to proper functionality, without the delay of shipping the appliance to a repair center.

Anti-Virus Protection

Canon recognizes that security is a key aspect of any software-based product. Therefore, the PSA allows the IT Manager to install their corporate edition of any standard anti-virus software on the PSA. IT Managers can easily standardize the anti-virus platform of the PSA with the rest of the computers and servers in the enterprise.

Auto Update

The Canon PSA will always be up-to-date with the latest system software releases through the automatic update function. The PSA monitors a dedicated Canon software portal. When it discovers a new release, the appliance automatically downloads and records it in the events log. The IT Manager can set the appliance for manual updates if desired. Updates are available for one year at no additional cost and can be extended for up to three years through an optional maintenance agreement.

Device Alerting

In addition to having self reporting and alerting capabilities, the PSA also reports the status of devices within its discovered device list. For example, the PSA provides the following alerts per device: key operator, supplies related error conditions, and break/fix dispatch.

Custom Community Strings

The PSA supports the use of custom SNMP community strings within an enterprise, in addition to supporting the default string, "public." The use of additional SNMP custom community strings increases network security for enterprises.

Convenient Device Management

IT Managers can easily access and configure the appliance settings through the administrator's view on the PSA's intranet Web page. Additionally, the IT Manager can also view the network printing devices and drill down to modify the settings as needed. The page can be accessed from anywhere on the corporate network.

Easy Access to Additional ESP-Based Applications

Because the PSA is based on Canon's Enterprise Services Platform (ESP), customers can easily take advantage of follow-up applications that Canon will be launching under the ESP umbrella.

Audience

IT Managers who utilize network printing will benefit from the Canon Print Server Appliance's ability to optimally manage those printing resources and increase overall efficiency.

Specifications

Operating System	Windows 2003 SAK 3.0 Version
Additional Services	Automatic device discovery, automatic print queue creation and share, Web-based device management, Web-based preconfigured driver download for clients, Web-based update services via dedicated software portal, customizable alerts/event logs
Form Factor	1U Rack-mount appliance with front panel
CPU	1.2GHz Intel® Celeron®
Hard Drive	40GB
Memory	512MB RAM
Network Interface	Two (2) 10/100Base-TX Ethernet Connections
User-interface	Web-based through browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 or later) Front-panel display and key input
Discovery Method	SNMP (broadcast or ping, configurable) Discovers imageRUNNER and standard printer MIB device
Preloaded Drivers	Canon imageRUNNER drivers preloaded. Other device drivers can be added via print server management tab.
Updates	Configurable for manual or automated updates from software portal
Alerts	Send alerts to designated recipients for specified services and events
Events Log	Log of all pertinent events and services running on PSA
Number of Print Devices Supported	No limit. Approximately 100 are recommended based on enterprise network topology and configuration.
Client S/W Requirements*	Windows 98/Me/2000/XP/Windows NT® 4.0, Windows Internet Explorer 6.0**
Dimensions (H x W x D)	1.72" x 19" x 19.5" (4.4cm x 48cm x 50cm)
Weight	18 lb. (8.16kg)
Power Requirements	250W; 90 ~ 250V, 47-63Hz
Support	One-year hardware exchange included; Two- and three-year extended support agreements available

*The Canon PSA's administration functions are not accessible from Windows 98/Me.

**May also work with higher versions of Windows Internet Explorer.

ENTERPRISE SERVICES™
PLATFORM

The Canon Enterprise Services Platform (ESP) represents a family of products and services designed to dramatically improve the way an organization manages and utilizes its network printing. As a market leader in connecting multifunction devices to enterprise environments, Canon fully understands the importance of not only seamlessly linking those environments, but actually integrating into them and taking advantage of any existing applications.

ESP is based on a modular open systems technology developed by Canon. This system is highly scalable and can grow along with the enterprise. It was designed in such a way that both hardware and software components can plug into the underlying architecture. Once the core technology is placed into an organization—as in the case of the Canon Print Server Appliance—additional ESP-based software applications can easily be added. Each of these software applications can provide valuable, time-saving benefits.

For more information, please visit
www.cusa.canon.com/psa

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